

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

Forest Protection –Formation of Red Sanders Anti-Smuggling Task Force (RSASTF) –Creation of Joint Task Force –Sanction of posts-Orders –Issued.

Finance (HR.I) Department

G.O.MS.No. 217

Date: 25.11.2014

Read the following:-

1. From the PCCF Rc. No. 1193/2014/HR.I dt. 04.09.2014
2. DG of Police, A.P., Letter No.28/Plg-4/2014 dated 16.09.2014
3. EFS&T Department U.O.No. 5368/For.Ser.V/2014, Dated.
4. Home Department U.O.no. 21318/Ser.III/A2/14, Dated.

O R D E R :-

In the reference third read above, the EFS&T department has stated that, Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus Santalinus*) is exclusive to the forests of Seshachalam, Veligonda, Lankamala and Palakonda Hill Ranges of Andhra Pradesh and distributed in the districts of Kadapa, Chittoor, Nellore, Prakasam and Kurnool over an area 5.16 lakh. There is enormous pressure of smuggling on Red Sanders due to its demand in the international market. There is rampant smuggling and felling of Red Sanders trees in the districts of Chittoor, Kadapa, Nellore and Kurnool in spite of various steps taken by the Forest and Police Departments. The Red Sanders logs are being cut by wood cutters employed by organized gangs of smugglers. After the logs are cut, smugglers are transferring the Red Sanders wood to various storage points and are further moved clandestinely out of the country. The wood has great demand in South East Asia, China and Japan.

2 Home Department in the reference fourth read above has informed that in the recent past, several violent incidents have occurred, where the Forest officials intercepting the wood cutters or illicit transporters were physically assaulted, killing two Forest personnel in one incident. Hence, the Department has stated that there is a need for Red Sanders Anti-smuggling Task Force to be effective against the seasoned, crude and daring smugglers hailing mainly from the neighboring states and requested for sanction of necessary posts for staffing the Task Force.

3. After careful examination of the proposal and in order to ensure effective protection of the Red Sanders' forests, the Government hereby order for creation of 463(Four Hundred and Sixty Three only) posts as mentioned in the annexure appended to this order to establish the armed Joint Task Force consisting of Police and Forest personnel, called the Red Sanders Anti-Smuggling Task Force (RSASTF).

4 The RSASTF shall function under the command and administrative control of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) or any other senior forest officer specifically designated by him in this regard under the supervision of Inspector General of Police, Rayalaseema Region for operations and other related matters.

5 The entire staff of RSASTF except the posts on contractual basis shall be on deputation from the Police and Forest Departments by drawing capable and competent staff after screening.

6 Deployment into the force will depend on the willingness and suitability to be decided by the Heads of Police Force and Forest Force jointly. Any one of them may be repatriated to the parent unit anytime without any notice, if he is found unsuitable. The Head of Police Department (HOPD) and Head of Forest Force (HOFF) will apportion the above sanctioned strength amongst various deputation lending units under their control on the basis of need and administrative convenience. Correspondingly, the HOPD and HOFF will arrange to augment the deputation reserve of lending units class/category wise for the purpose of promotions/ recruitment in the respective units.

7 The staff deployed in the RASTF will get a Special Allowance at the Rate of 30% of Pay during their tenure with RASTF.

8 EFS&T and Home Departments shall take further action for formulating the operational and functional guidelines of the above Task Force.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**Dr. P.V.RAMESH
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (R&E)**

The Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department, A.P. Hyderabad
The Principal Secretary to Government, EFS&T Department AP Hyderabad
The Director General of Police, A.P. Hyderabad.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HOFF) , A.P. Hyderabad
The Collectors and District Magistrate, Kadapa, Chittoor, Nellore, Prakasam and Kurnool

The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, A.P. Hyderabad
The pay and Accounts Officer, Hyderabad
The Accountant General (A&E) AP Hyderabad,
The PS.to PFS/PFS(R&E)
SF/SC (151/A1/HR.I/2014)
(172/A1/HR.I/2014)

// FORWARDED:: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

Annexure. I

Posts Sanctioned for establishment of Red Sanders Anti-Smuggling Task Force (RSATF) of A.P

| Sl.No | Name of the post | No of posts | Remarks |
|--------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|
| I. | POLICE DEPARTMENT POSTS | | |
| 1) | Dy. Inspector General of Police Head of the Task Force | 1 | |
| 2) | Superintendent of Police (Non Cadre). | 1 | |
| 3) | Deputy Supdt., of Police (Civil) | 3 | |
| 4) | Inspectors (Civil) | 4 | |
| 5) | Inspectors (Reserve) | 2 | |
| 6) | Sub Inspectors (Civil) | 6 | |
| 7) | Head Constables (Civil) | 6 | |
| 8) | Head Constables(Communications) | 1 | |
| 9) | Police Constables (Civil)(including drivers) | 42 | |
| | Police Constables (AR) (including drivers) | 20 | |
| | Police Constables (Communications)(including drivers) | 1 | |
| | District Special Parties (3) | | |
| 10) | Reserve Sub Inspector | 3 | |
| 11) | Armed Reserve HC | 3 | |
| 12) | Armed Reserve PC | 60 | |
| | APSP Platoons (3) | | |
| 13) | Reserve Sub Inspector | 3 | |
| 14) | Armed Reserve Sub Inspector | 3 | |
| 15) | Head Constable (HC) | 27 | |
| 16) | Police Constable (PC) | 57 | |
| II | FOREST DEPARTMENT POSTS | | |
| 17) | Conservator of Forests | 1 | |
| 18) | Asst. Conservator of Forests | 3 | |
| 19) | Forest Range Officers | 4 | |
| 20) | Dy. Range Officers | 6 | |
| 21) | Forest Section Officers | 6 | |
| 22) | Forest Beat Officers | 6 | |
| III | ADMINISTRATIVE & MINISTERIAL POSTS | | |
| 23) | A.O. | 1 | |
| 24) | Superintendent | 1 | |
| 25) | Sr. Asst. | 1 | |
| 26) | Jr. Asst. | 3 | |
| IV | OTHER POSTS | | |
| 27) | Special Police Officers (SPOs) | 80 | |
| 28) | Home Guards | 50 | |
| 29) | Office support staff | 58 | On contractual basis |
| | Total | 463 | |

SECTION OFFICER